



Letter From The Mayor

Greetings,

This is intended to be a concise, easy-to-read report of what the City of Columbus has accomplished in the past year, what our plans are for this year and how we keep the *momentum* going to achieve our goals.

I feel very privileged to serve a community which has so much to offer its residents and visitors.

My priorities are to make sure that your city government is providing services, delivering results, and making sound financial decisions for you. As you will read, we have responded in a strong responsible manner. We have managed your finances well and been working within our budgetary constraints while focusing on our most important priorities.

I welcome and encourage your involvement in helping me achieve these goals.

I look forward to continuing our work together as we continue to make Columbus a better place to **LIVE, WORK and PLAY.**

As always, my door remains open to you – or if you prefer, call, fax or email me at mayor@columbus.in.us. Your concerns and interests are important to me. Together, we can proceed with confidence. Together, we can keep the *momentum* going.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fred L. Armstrong". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fred L. Armstrong, Mayor

Phone: (812) 376-2500

Fax: (812) 376-2524

email: mayor@columbus.in.us

Mission Statement

To bring government back to the people, providing a common sense approach to city government by:

- Promoting economic efficiency
- Providing a clean and safe environment
- Seeking out public suggestions and responding

Our City/Community

The Department of Community Development manages the following grants:

Community Focus Fund

Housing Development Fund

Economic Development Loan Program

Community Development Program Fund

Telecommunications Fund Grants

Locally, grants have helped to renovate the shelter for victims of domestic violence, purchase a building for the Volunteers In Medicine Clinic, provide funding to Lincoln Central Family Neighborhood Center, and renovate Eastside Community Center.

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City Council Contacts:

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District 2

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District 3

Ann DeVore
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District 4

Rob Kittle
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At Large

George Dutro
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At Large

John Brown, President
Phone: 812-379-3389
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Public Service

Police Department Activity

Number of-

- Calls for Service: 38,000 Up 71% from 1995
- Assists with Take Home Cars: 3,156
- Criminal Arrests: 2,786 Up 78% from 1995
- DUI Arrests: 218 Up 49% from 1995
- Burglaries: 286
- New officers approved for 2001: 5
- Courtesy Car Unlocks: 3,244
- Youth in PAL Programs: 1,400 children in 13 programs
- Youth Participation in DARE/GREAT Programs: 1800 graduated; 67 Classrooms; 5 Officers

Department established a Liaison Officer for Hispanic community. Bicycle Patrols and Walking Patrols continue to support neighborhoods and community events.

Continue working to abolish illegal drugs.

With quality police service and community support, Columbus residents remain much safer than other communities our size.

Public Safety remains a top priority. The administration pledges to continue our partnership with the public in an effort to better serve and better protect.

Fire Department

Number of Fire and Emergency Responses: 2,181

Number of-

- Medic runs with Fire Department: 781
- EMS runs for Columbus Regional Hospital: 581

Number of Fire Fatalities: 0

Number of People instructed in Fire Safety: 10,287

- Trained 3,800 1st-3rd graders utilizing the Fire Safety House

Number of Fire Inspections: Approximately 1,800

Raised \$52,000 during the annual Cheer Fund Drive:

- Assisted 627 Children; Delivered 241 Food Baskets; and 128 Smoke Detectors

Engineering

The Engineering Department continues its mission to create a sound infrastructure and provide technical expertise.

The Department:

- Awarded the third phase of the Rocky Ford Road project
- Changed 10th Street from Central to Cottage to a two-way operation
- Sealed city streets as part of our on-going preventive maintenance program
- Installed new streetlights along Brown and Linsey and authorized the installation of new streetlights along McClure Road
- Continued Walk Works and Curb Works
- Installed 82 curb ramps

Parks and Recreation

The Park Operation Center completed first year of operation. Facility is home to day-to-day parks operation. With room, organization was able to use 3,222 hours of community volunteer labor to benefit the beauty of our parks.

Received over \$1M of federal grants to develop a 5.5 mile section of People Trail and develop McCullough's Run Park.

Two local programs recognized nationally! Additionally, Parks collaborated and formed many new partnerships to offer field trips, classes, family programs and contests for people of all ages.

Number of participants in FREE recreational programs: 9,200
Total participation in Sports programs: 9,510 Adults and 9,218 Youth

Among firsts-

- First Columbus skateboard and inline skating competition at the Jolie Crider Memorial Skate Park for 60 skaters and 300 spectators
- New Pre-school program for children ages 2-5 benefited 70 Children

The Teddy Bear Gymnastics Meet with 440 gymnasts (20 Clubs) and three-time Russian Olympian and World champion presenting the awards.

Number visiting Donner Aquatics Center: 43,000

- Additionally, the facility held five swimming meets (1,500 swimmers); offered 115 Hours of free public swim. 1,223 swimmers took lessons and 80 enrolled in a Masters swim class. Twenty-six area groups and individuals rented the facility for get-togethers

Soccer-

- Number participating in Youth Soccer: 2,157 players
- Annual Soccer Tournament drew 120 teams (3,800 players)

Softball-

- Number of participants in Columbus Softball Association: 321 Teams (4,800 players)
- Number of Softball tournaments: 12 tournaments with 200 teams and 2,600 participants
- Eight Teams held first annual Legends of Lincoln Softball Tournament to benefit Lincoln Park

Featured Committee

"The Mayor's Cultural Awareness Committee"

Formed in 1998, the Cultural Awareness Committee is charged with: 1.) promoting inclusion; 2.) increasing our understanding of different cultures, 3.) increasing interpersonal sensitivity toward one another, 4.) being a resource for community service, and 5.) promoting a common good among all people in Columbus.

Since its beginning, the group has designed diversity training; addressed barriers to integrating new populations into the community; educated community groups on diversity; supported diversity related community events; and assisted with the annual Martin L King, Jr. Breakfast.

This committee is made up of thirty volunteer members.

2001 Goals

- Continue providing cost-effective services and hold the line on spending.
- Have the courage to make tough decisions and the compassion to listen to the needs of others
- Continue allowing those affected by our decisions to participate in making those decisions
- Recognize and capitalize on our diversity



Columbus City Hall

Fiscal Discipline

Department Heads continued to hold the line on spending.

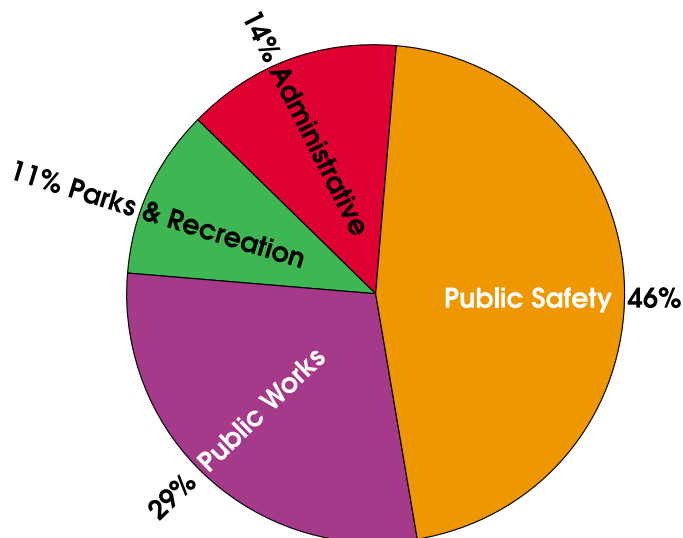
What is my tax rate?

For the sixth year in a row, the 2001 City tax rate remains *unchanged*.
The tax rate for the City is \$2.65 Per \$100 of real and personal property.

Tax Rate	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
City	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.72	2.71	2.81	2.87	3.00	2.81	3.48
County	1.44	1.54	1.55	1.56	1.54	1.61	1.72	1.76	1.64	1.57	1.36	1.60
Schools	4.77	4.81	5.06	4.70	5.10	4.77	4.54	4.89	4.51	4.32	3.70	4.75
Others	0.26	0.33	0.40	0.39	0.42	0.34	0.43	0.28	0.26	0.22	0.21	0.30
Total	\$9.12	\$9.33	\$9.65	\$9.30	\$9.71	\$9.44	\$9.40	\$9.74	\$9.28	\$9.11	\$8.08	\$10.13

How is my money working in the community?

- We are committed to maintaining a low tax rate. Major tax abatements are phasing out and bringing new tax money on line
- We have a new fully-funded fire station, (FFY) Foundation for Youth, Parks and Recreation projects in excess of \$4M, and many fully-funded storm sewer and city street projects
- Annual budgets have had minimal increases with no reduction in services. We continue to be fiscally responsible and our City is in sound financial condition



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Community Development

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Public Safety

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City Garage and Services

2250 Kreutzer Drive
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MVH: (812) 376-2508
Transit: (812) 376-2506
Call-A-Bus: (812) 376-2506
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Animal Shelter

Kevin Konetzka, Manager
Animal Control Department
Animal Control Shelter
2730 Arnold Street
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Alternate: (812) 376-2580
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Aviation

Rodney Blasdel, Director
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City Utilities

Keith Reeves, Director
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Clerk Treasurer Office

John Baughn, Clerk Treasurer
City Hall
123 Washington Street
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Columbus Area Arts Council

Robert Burnett, Director
The Commons
302 Washington Street
Columbus, IN 47201
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Ticket Office: (812) 376-2535
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Columbus Housing Authority

Deborah Holt, Director
Heritage Woods Apartments
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Engineering Department

David Hayward, City Engineer
City Hall
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Fire Department

Gary Henderson, Fire Chief
Headquarters & Administrative
1101 Jackson Street
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Cheer Fund: (812) 379-1112

Human Rights Commission

Arlette Cooper-Tinsley, Director
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Risk Management

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Personnel Department

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Planning Department

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Police Department

Matt McCord, Chief
City Hall
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Emergency: 911
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Fax: (812) 376-2649

Parks & Recreation Department

Chuck Wilt, Director
Donner Center
22nd and Sycamore Street
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Parks Info Line: (812) 376-2682
Donner Pool: (812) 376-2683
Greenbelt GC: (812) 376-684
Par 3 GC: (812) 376-2687
FFY: (812) 372-7867
Gymnastics Center:
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Hamilton Center: (812) 376-2686
Softball Association:
(812) 379-4872